WHAT WE THINK

Money For Slum Clearance

THE dismal picture of civic finance painted by the Municipal Commissioner is relieved by two welcome announcements and, in an era where the citizen has to be grateful for small mercies, they should give general satisfaction. Mr. Nayak "has been given the impression" that the State Government's slum clearance plans, barren of results so far, have been partially included in the Five-Year Plan. His impression extends to the fact that money would soon be made available for implementing these plans. We hope the impression is well-founded. We would also like to suggest that the Central Government should divert to slum clearance that portion of its allocation of Rs. 10 crores for housing in the current year which it may have earmarked for Greater Bombay and which may not be used. This additional money will help expedite the elimination of dwellings whose continuance for every single day that passes is a blot on the city. Mr. Nayak has also been "given to understand" that the Vaitarna water supply scheme, too, finds a place in the Five-Year Plan and that the gap between the money needed to complete the project and the funds available to the Corporation would be filled by the Government. The city's water-starved population will hail this news. Many a useful hour was wasted in wrangles with the Reconstruction Minister over the selection of one of the projects prepared to augment the city's water supply. The choice at last fell on

Tukaram University To Be Modelled On Sriniketan

NEWS has just reached me that the proposed Tukaram Vishwavidyalaya will be modelled on the famous Sriniketan, one of Dr. Rabindranath Tagore's legacies to this country.

Prof. N. K. Bhagwat, who is the chief organiser of the Vishwavidyalaya, tells me that, when completed, the Tukaram University may become the Shriniketan of the south, attracting young men in quest of knowledge and culture.

Prof. Bhagwat is presently touring Maharashtra enlisting public support to his move.

Students' Sphere By Bookworm

In a recent message to Prof. Bhagwat, Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, Vice-President, said: "I agree that if the freedom of our country is to endure, we must achieve social unity and Saint Tukaram's guidance will be of immense value."

Tukaram's Message

Readers will remember that besides doing rural construction work, the Tukaram University aims at spreading the message of Tukaram, especially the way of life preached and practised by the great Maharastrian Saint.

General K. M. Cariappa has a 15-year-old son and a nine-year-old daughter who declare: "We are not Coorgs. We are not Indians. We are citizens of the world."

They have not only accepted world citizenship, but, when asked what they would do when they grew up, noted for its military bluntness. Students, he emphasised, should learn to put square pegs in square holes and round pegs in round holes. They should keep the target high and let small things like caste and creed take care of themselves. Their loyalty to the country should be both horizontal and vertical and foolproof.

While asking students not to indulge in politics, Gen. Cariappa let out a secret. His loyalty to the country was so firm that he decided by Mr. S. K. Patil, who presided over the function.

"The youth of the country is mad after you," Mr. Patil told Gen. Cariappa. Any country would be proud of the precedents created and traditions set up by Gen. Cariappa, Mr. Patil said.

Army Artist

The visit of Gen. Cariappa also helped the people of Bombay to discover a promising Army artist in Havildar Clerk (Store) K. K. Army Quarters at Colaba and daily attends the School. He hopes to take a diploma in art in another three years.

Swarthy, bespectacled Menon hails from Walvanad Taluk, Malabar. He belongs to a family of ten brothers and sisters.

Cadet Corps

The Girls Division of the National Cadet Corps is inundated with applications from aspiring recruits, I understand.

[illegible]ews, of course, is most welcome that not all these are joining the N.C.C. in order to get condonation of marks in their examinations!

In this connection, Miss Nila Kaushik Pandit, a research student of the Institute of Science and a Second Lieutenant of the Girls Division of the N.C.C., has a piece of advice to give.

Some girls, Miss Pandit says, have the notion that after training they will be sent to the front. This is obviously wrong. [illegible] leaders plays an important [illegible] Valley velopment of girls; it will National improve their individuali[illegible]list Re- and outlook.

According to Miss Pandit, [illegible] to re- cruits have nothing [illegible] fear. In fact, nothing, the training gives [illegible] re- in the N. C. C. will enable [illegible] any- to keep themselves physically fit. [illegible]ble them Miss Pandit says: "If the [illegible] of our country is threatened [illegible]

target date for completion of the scheme is 1954 and the Government and the Corporation must together see to it that the required money and materials keep flowing to the dam site so that the year of promise also becomes the year of fulfilment. Citizens except in a few favoured localities have suffered too long in waiting upon the short-lived trickle of water that feebly comes out of the taps. To prolong their hardship is to show contempt for the people who may not stomach it for all time.

LETTERS TO US

Vandalism In New Trains

Your editorial comments and the report in your issue of October 24, regarding thefts of fittings in the new coaches, seem to fix much of the blame on the Watch and Ward staff.

In this connection I have been informed by some senior subordinates that no Watch and Ward staff members are stationed on the moving suburban trains to guard the fittings of the so-called "moving palaces of light." Hence the criticism levelled against them for their failure in guarding the Railway property and the suspicion cast on their honesty are unfounded.

Not only the guarding of suburban coaches at stabling depots and yards is carried on efficiently, but also one hears of attempts by thieves in the parcel and goods depots, yards and workshops being nipped in the bud by the Watch and Ward staff. Their loyalty and integrity are therefore, beyond reproach.

Of course, they could have been held responsible for the disappearance of fittings if they were also posted to guard the new trains while they are on the move.

Unless the miscreants, most of whom are to be seen loitering in the compartments and on platforms, are kept away by the Police authorities and severe punishment is meted out to those caught red-handed and to those who purchase the stolen articles, such thefts will continue.

V. R. N.

not seem to have an enduring appeal to them, at least to nine-year-old Nalini.

Nalini recently revolted against the cosmopolitan creed and told her father over the breakfast table: "I am a citizen of the world, no doubt. But I will not serve mankind when I grow up."

A perturbed father looked on as Nalini paused for a while. And then she said: "Why always mankind? After I become a grown-up, I will serve womankind."

Mr. Menon and his pencil sketch of Gen. Cariappa.

Gen. Cariappa narrated this incident while stressing the importance of a cosmopolitan outlook at a students' gathering organised by the National Union of Students in Bombay last week.

Memorable Speech

Gen. Cariappa blew into the city like a fresh breeze and found time, in the midst of his crowded programme, to deliver a memorable address to Bombay students.

Woken up from their holiday slumber, students thronged to St. Xavier's College to listen to the retiring Army chief.

Gen. Cariappa wants young students to be as much concerned with the welfare of the country as with the Army. In fact, he said, nothing made him happier than to think of the future of "two communities"—the youth and the Army—which was very bright.

Gen. Cariappa's speech will be

last week.

not to vote in the last General Election because he did not want to show his preference to one political party or the other.

Informal Air

Following suit, a number of Army personnel also refrained from exercising their franchise. (A voice: "Defaulters!).

What appealed to the assembled students was the air of informality with which the Commander-in-Chief spoke. Many students wished they could listen to many more such refreshing talks.

Gen. Cariappa rounded off his talk with a paternal "God bless you," and confessed to a sense of disappointment when every one in the assembly did not join in the singing of the National Anthem.

The enthusiasm of the students to meet Gen. Cariappa was whipped up

Collegian Cricket Star

Mr. Madhav Laxman Apte, who has been selected to play against Pakistan in the forthcoming Test in Bombay, combines in him the qualities of a fine sportsman and amiable student.

After his initial success in school cricket, Madhav entered Elphinstone College where he was to win many laurels. He has been a member of the college team since he joined the institution four years ago.

Cricket is not the only game which attracts young Madhav. He has represented his college in the Inter-Collegiate Tennis and Table Tennis Tournaments.

Madhav has had the unique opportunity of being coached by India's best cricketers like Vinoo Mankad, S. R. Godambe, S. W. Sohoni and M. K. Mantri.

Editorial Tribute

The editorial of "The Elphinstonian," recorded in its last issue: "And, of course, everybody who has heard of cricket is talking of Shri Madhav Apte. This "petit" batsman has been showing consistent prowess in our major tournaments. His brilliant 98 in the first innings of the Ranji Trophy Final last week brought him such wild cheering at the Stadium that we almost heard it in the College."

Madhav played in the Ranji Trophy match for Bombay XI. He won the Western India Squash Championship (Jr.) in 1949. He was also

a runner-up in the C.C.I. Open Badminton Tournament in 1948.

And did you know that Madhav has bagged several prizes in fancy dress competitions? He was awarded a prize in the C.C.I. Fancy Dress Competition.

With the great qualities that he possesses, Madhav is a popular figure among Elphinstonians. He has been crowned Mr. Elphinstone for 1951-52.

Menon, Army Service Corps, Supply Depot, Bombay.

Havildar Menon joined the Army in January 1943. It was Gen. Cariappa who first discovered young Menon's artistic bent. The Commander-in-Chief helped to send him to the J. J. School of Art in Bombay.

Gen. Cariappa, who visited the J. J. School on Friday last, was much pleased to see the progress made by Havildar Menon, considered to be one of the best students in the institution.

Twenty-six-year-old Menon surprised the General by asking him to autograph a pencil drawn portrait done by the Army artist in three days. Menon said that he drew the portrait in his leisure hours.

Havildar Menon is a Second Year student in the Fine Arts Section. He has his board and lodging in the

will defend our country."

Cadets' Achievements

Principal L. N. W[illegible] Second In Command, 3rd Bombay [illegible], who holds the rank of a [illegible] in the N.C.C., has sent me a [illegible] view of the achievements [illegible] N. C. C. cadets in which he says: "The achievements of the N. C. C. during the last four years of its existence deserves praise and appreciation."

Since its inception in August 1948, the N.C.C. has gathered strength and has made such remarkable progress that today it is looked upon as one of the outstanding achievements of Free India.

The cadets are drawn from schools and colleges. They receive training in various military subjects and in handling of the weapons. The N.C.O.s and J.C.O.s from the regular Army are detailed and sent to different N.C.C. Units for the purpose of giving instruction to the N.C.C. cadets. The cadets naturally get the benefit of training under those who are experts in their own line.

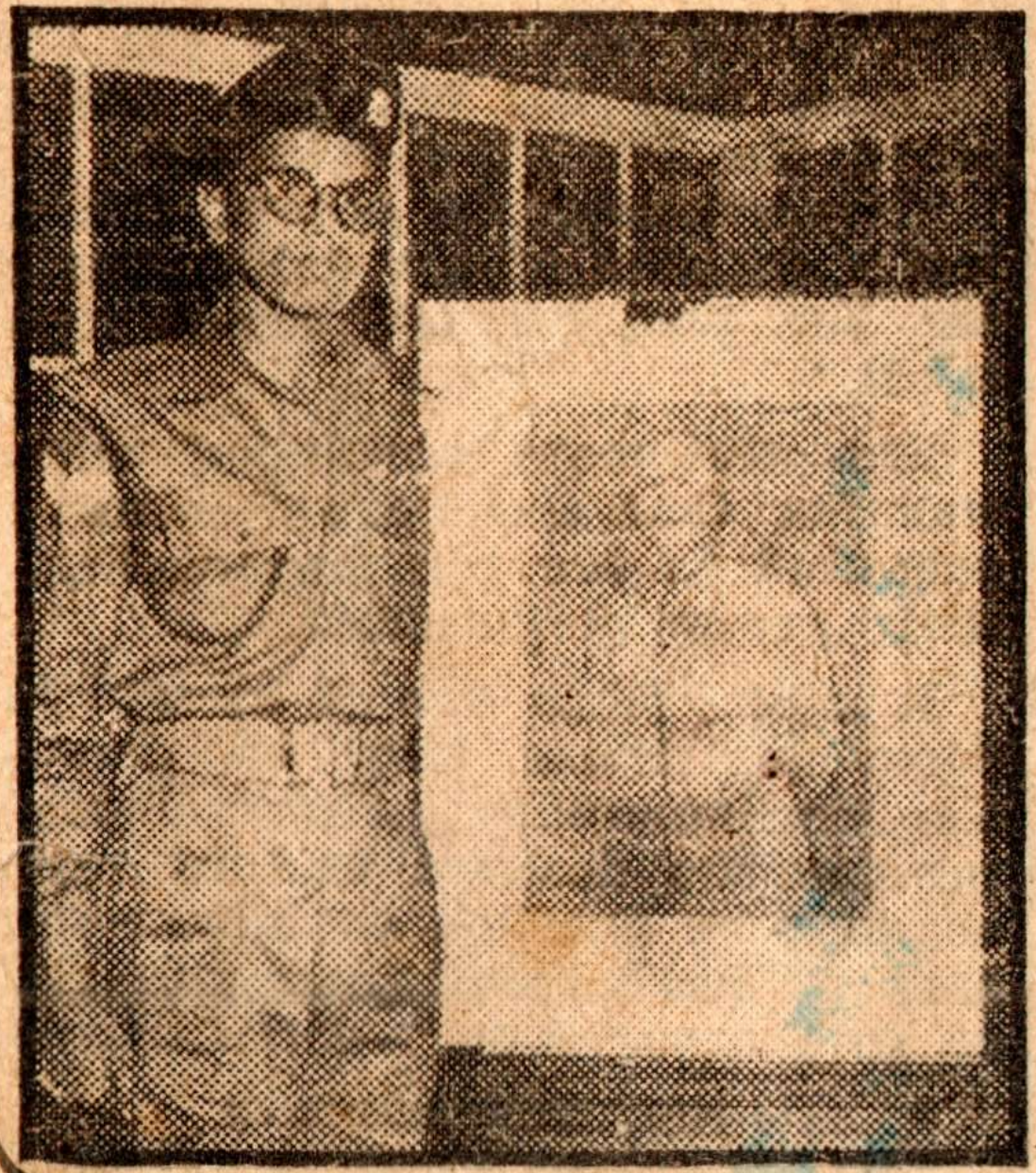
Direct Contact

The direct contact between the regular Army personnel and the N.C.C. cadets has many an advantage. The Army officers are also benefited to a considerable extent by this contact, because the N. C. C. cadets are university [illegible]. The advantage

Principal Welingkar [illegible] on Wednesday last, but not the least, that emanates from the activities of this organisation, concerns the physical fitness of young boys and girls of this country. By the very nature of N.C.C. training, the cadet imbibe a sense of leadership and of initiative which stand them in good stead when faced with difficult situations, which, in life, are countless."

Manori Picnic

Members and guests of the National College Catholic Association went on a picnic to Manori Island on Sunday last. Interesting games were conducted by Miss Diana De Penha. The organisers of the picnic were Messrs. Wilson Misquita and Jimmi Ferandis. The playful waves and the sand-dunes contributed not a little to the enjoyment of the twenty holiday-makers, who included nine ladies.



Mr. Menon and his pencil sketch of Gen Cariappa.